

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~Use of~~ A method for the preparation of a medicament for modulating NCAM functions comprising utilizing a peptide consisting of 5 to 30 amino acid residues, preferably 9 to 15, most preferably about 12 amino acid residues, said peptide comprising a B epitope of a poly- $\alpha$ 2,8 sialic acid attached to NCAM, which is recognized by an anti-poly- $\alpha$ 2,8 sialic acid antibody; ~~for the preparation of a medicament for modulating NCAM functions.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said peptide is linear or cyclic.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2, characterized in that~~ wherein said peptide comprises an amino acid sequence which is selected from the group consisting of the sequences SEQ ID NO: 1 to 12 and 14 to 26, corresponding respectively to DSPLVPFIDFHP, LWQPPLIPGIDF, QIEPWFTPEDFP, TRLAPLVFPLDY, SWLQMPWALVRT, EIHLRMIKQITI, WHLEYMWRWPRL, LIEQRLPKHILT, YETSSSRLLAYA, TLASQLSNTSAY, SDQGVNGSWSNP, ,WHNWNLWAPASPT, IKSPLTWLVPPD, SHLDLSTGHRTS, CYPLNPEVYHCG, CWPLSHSVIVCG, CSSVTAWTTGCG, CYMASGVFLCG, CWPLGPSTYICG, CSLIASMETGCG, CSKIASMETGCG, CYIGDPPFNPCG, CWPLGDSTVICG CPLRLAFTFGCG and CTRMSHGYWICG, and the functional derivatives thereof.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said peptide consists of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 to 12 and SEQ ID NO: 14 to SEQ ID NO: 26.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said peptide is a linear peptide consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said peptide is a cyclic peptide in which the side chain of the cysteine residue at position 1 of SEQ ID NO: 18 or SEQ ID NO: 22 is attached covalently to the side chain residue of the cysteine at position 11 of SEQ ID NO: 18 or SEQ ID NO: 22 via a disulfide bond.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2,~~ ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said peptide is a cyclic peptide comprising the sequence SEQ ID NO: 13 or the functional derivatives thereof.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2,~~ ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said peptide is a linear peptide comprising the sequence SEQ ID NO: 13 or the functional derivatives thereof.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 8,~~ ~~characterized in that claim 1 wherein~~ said peptide is included in a complex comprising several identical or different peptides as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, linked by covalent or non-covalent bonds.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9,~~  
~~characterized in that claim 1 wherein~~ said medicament is for the prevention and/or the  
treatment of a pathological condition selected from the group consisting of:  
neurodegenerative diseases, brain and spine lesions, age-related learning and memory  
problems.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~Use~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~  
~~and 9, characterized in that claim 1 wherein~~ said medicament is for the prevention and/or the  
treatment of cancer.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~Medicament, characterized in that it comprises~~ A  
medicament comprising a peptide as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 7 or a peptide complex as~~  
~~defined in claim 9 claim 1.~~

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~Pharmaceutical~~ A pharmaceutical composition;  
~~characterized in that it comprises comprising~~ an effective amount of a peptide as defined in  
~~claims 1 to 7, or a peptide complex as defined in claim 9 claim 1 and,~~ optionally in a  
combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): ~~Peptide, characterized in that it consists~~ A peptide  
consisting of 5 to 30 amino acids, preferably 9 to 15, most preferably about 12 amino acid  
residues, said peptide comprising a B epitope of a poly- $\alpha$ 2,8 sialic acid attached to NCAM,  
which is recognized by an anti-poly- $\alpha$ 2,8 sialic acid antibody, with the exclusion of the linear

peptides comprising the sequences selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO: 13, 31 and 32.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): ~~Peptide~~ The peptide according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the peptide is linear or cyclic.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): ~~Peptide~~ The peptide according to claim 14 ~~or claim 15, characterized in that it~~ wherein the peptide comprises an amino acid sequence which is selected from the group consisting of the sequences SEQ ID NO: 1 to 12 and 14 to 26, corresponding respectively to DSPLVPFIDFHP, LWQPPLIPGIDF, QIEPWFTPEDFP, TR LAPLVFPLDY, SWLQMPWALVRT, EHLRMIKQITI, WHLEYMWRWPRL, LIEQRLPKHILT, YETSSRLLAYA, TLASQLSNTSAY, SDQGVNGSWSNP, WHNWNLWAPASPT, IKSPLTWLVPPD, SHLDLSTGHRTS, CYPLNPEVYHCG, CWPLSHSVIVCG, CSSVTAWTTGCG, CYMASGVFLCG, CWPLGPSTYICG, CSLIASMETGCG, CSKIASMETGCG, CYIGDPPFNPCG, CWPLGDSTVICG CPLRLAFTFGCG and CTRMSHGYWICG, and the functional derivatives thereof.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): ~~Peptide~~ The peptide according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the peptide consists of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 to SEQ ID NO: 26.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~Peptide~~ The peptide according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the peptide is a linear peptide consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): ~~Peptide~~ The peptide according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the is a cyclic peptide in which the side chain of the cysteine residue at position 1 of SEQ ID NO: 18 or SEQ ID NO: 22 is attached covalently to the side chain residue of the cysteine at position 11 of SEQ ID NO: 18 or SEQ ID NO: 22 via a disulfide bond.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): ~~Peptide~~ A peptide complex, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the peptide comprises several identical or different peptides according to ~~any of claims 14 to 19~~ claim 14 linked by covalent or non-covalent bonds.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): ~~Polynucleotide, characterized in that it~~ A polynucleotide wherein the polynucleotide encodes the peptide according to ~~any of claims 14 to 19 or the peptide complex according to claim 20~~ claim 14.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): ~~Recombinant~~ A recombinant vector, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the recombinant vector comprises a polynucleotide encoding the peptide according to ~~any of claims 14 to 19 or the peptide complex according to claim 20~~ claim 14.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): ~~Host~~ A host cell, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the host cell is transformed by a recombinant vector according to claim 22.

Claim 24 (New): A medicament comprising a peptide complex as defined in claim 9.

Claim 25 (New): A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a peptide complex as defined in claim 9 and optionally in a combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 26 (New): A polynucleotide wherein the polynucleotide encodes the peptide complex according to claim 20.

Claim 27 (New): A recombinant vector wherein the recombinant vector comprises the peptide complex according to claim 20.

Claim 28 (New): A host cell wherein the host cell is transformed by a recombinant vector according to claim 27.